

# NEWS RELEASE

# THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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## **President's summit on volunteering is made-for-TV hypocrisy, say Libertarians**

*After 30 years of government failure, politicians beg for volunteers*

WASHINGTON, DC — The Presidents' Summit for America's Future is a made-for-TV study in hypocrisy, says the Libertarian Party — politicians who spent their whole lives using the coercive power of government are now preaching to Americans about the virtues of voluntary cooperation.

**"Bill Clinton and George Bush lecturing about the merits of volunteering is like Bonnie and Clyde lecturing about the merits of bank loans,"** said party chairman Steve Dasbach about the summit in Philadelphia designed to get more Americans to volunteer.

Clinton and Bush were joined at the three-day summit by former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford. But their presence merely turned the event into "an all-star infomercial about the failures of government," said Dasbach.

"Over the past 30 years, politicians like Clinton, Bush, Carter, and Ford have spent \$7 trillion on government programs to eradicate social problems," he noted. "Now, they're forced to admit they did such a terrible job and wasted so much money that the only solutions left are non-governmental solutions."

To lead by televised example, Bill Clinton even grabbed a paintbrush to paint over graffiti in a poor, inner-city neighborhood.

**"Clinton is no volunteer, but he plays one on television,"** said Dasbach wryly. "He spent one afternoon trying to salvage a neighborhood that his favorite government programs have devastated."

Devastated? That's right, said Dasbach: "In numerous inner-city neighborhoods, government welfare programs destroyed two-parent families, government regulations destroyed businesses, and government schools destroyed the educational system. It's going to take more than Bill Clinton with a paintbrush to cover up 30 years of government failure."

**Does all this criticism of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future mean that Libertarians are opposed to volunteering?**

"Libertarians, and Americans in general, are 100% in favor of volunteering," said Dasbach. "That's why 93 million Americans volunteered 15 billion hours of time in 1995. What we're opposed to are politicians who spend 364 days a year in Washington, DC, raising taxes and proposing new regulations — and one day lecturing us about the merits of volunteering."

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